

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 /030 R

DRAFTED BY NSC:JTAYLOR:WHGLEESTEEN:DW

APPROVED BY EA - MR. HUMMEL

S/S-O:AUOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 206906 TOSEC 220008

WHITE HOUSE PASS SECRETARY KISSINGER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, POPS

SUBJECT: SITREP 2 AS OF 1800

PLANNED U.S. MILITARY MOVES

THE TREE CUTTING OPERATION IS NOW SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE  
AT ABOUT 1800 HRS. EDT ON AUGUST 20. SIMULTANEOUS WITH THE  
TREE CUTTING, A NUMBER OF B-52'S WILL ARRIVE OVER SOUTH  
KOREA.

FIVE GROUPS OF FOUR F-111'S WILL BE ARRIVING IN THE ROK  
AUGUST 20 BETWEEN 0225 AND 0425 EDT.

THE MIDWAY CARRIER TASK GROUP HAS BEEN ORDERED TO SAIL AT  
1700 EDT AUGUST 20 TO THE VICINITY OF THE SOUTHERN APPROACHES  
TO THE KOREA STRAIT.

CHARGE STERN AND GENERAL STILLWELL WILL SEE PRESIDENT PARK  
SHORTLY TO INFORM HIM IN DETAIL OF OUR PLANS FOR THE TREE,  
THE B-52'S AND THE F-111'S.

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STILLWELL'S PROPOSED PLAN

GENERAL STILLWELL'S PROPOSED PLAN FOR THE TREE SURGERY CALLS FOR U.S. ENGINEERS, AUGMENTED BY 50-60 ROK TAEKWONDO SPECIALISTS TO ENTER THE JSA AND FELL THE TREE WITH CHAIN SAWS OR BY DEMOLITION. AT THE SAME TIME TWO "ILLEGAL" NORTH KOREAN ROAD BARRIERS WOULD BE REMOVED BY BULLDOZERS; THE DURATION OF THE OPERATION WOULD BE ABOUT 45 MINUTES.

BACK-UP FORCES WOULD INCLUDE THE AUTHORIZED 35 MAN ARMED SECURITY FORCE WITHIN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY AS WELL AS ONE U.S. INFANTRY COMPANY POSITIONED CLOSE TO THE JSA AND ARMED WITH CLUBS ONLY; WEAPONS WOULD BE IN NEARBY TRUCKS. ALSO ONE ROK INFANTRY COMPANY ARMED WITH ORGANIC WEAPONS WOULD BE POSITIONED NEARBY AND ONE U.S. OR ROK RIFLE COMPANY ORBITING IN HELOS IN THE VICINITY. ADDITIONALLY, A TANK/INFANTRY BATTALION WOULD BE POSITIONED SOUTH OF THE IMJIM RIVER. ARTILLERY WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE OPERATION IF THE NORTH SHOULD USE WEAPONS.

THE MISSION IS TO ACCOMPLISH THE REMOVAL OF THE TREE AND GATES WITHOUT SHOOTING, AND SHOULD THE OTHER SIDE START SHOOTING, THE MISSION BECOMES ONE OF RAPID EXTRACTION OF FORCES FROM CLOSE CONTACT RELYING PRIMARILY ON ARTILLERY COVERING FIRE JCS IS STAFFING THIS PROPOSAL FOR HIGH LEVEL WASHINGTON DECISION.  
NORTH KOREAN ACTION

SENSITIVE SOURCES CONFIRM THAT SOME NK AIRCRAFT AND NAVAL UNITS REMAIN ON ALERT STATUS. MEANWHILE NORTH KOREA IS APPARENTLY MAKING DIPLOMATIC APPROACHES ON THE AUGUST 18 INCIDENT TO NUMEROUS FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

CONTACTS WITH OUR ALLIES

IN ADDITION TO JAPAN, AND CANADA, WHICH WERE INFORMED EARLIER, WE INSTRUCTED OUR POSTS TO INFORM OUR NATO ALLIES, AS WELL AS AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES OF THE DEFCON 3 MOVE. A DOD PUBLIC STATEMENT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ISSUED BRIEFLY NOTING THE INCREASED READINESS POSTURE BEING ADOPTED BY US FORCES IN KOREA.

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CINCUNC LETTER TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

WE HAVE INSTRUCTED USUN TO DELIVER TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL A LETTER FROM CINCUNC WHICH GIVES A FACTUAL ACCOUNT OF THE PANMUNJOM INCIDENT.

CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

AMB. MCCLOSKEY AND THE H STAFF ARE CONSULTING ON THE HILL  
INFORMING SELECTED MEMBERS OF DEVELOPMENTS AND EXPLAINING  
THAT OUR MOVES DO NOT INVOLVE THE WAR POWERS ACT. CON-

GRESSIONAL LEADERS IN KANSAS CITY ARE ALSO BEING BRIEFED.

AMBASSADOR SNEIDER RETURNS TO SEOUL

AMBASSADOR SNEIDER HAS CUT SHORT HIS HOME LEAVE AND WILL BE  
RETURNING TO KOREA THIS EVENING.

WORLD REACTION

INTERNATIONAL REACTION TO THE AUGUST 18 INCIDENT HAS THUS  
FAR BEEN RELATIVELY LIGHT:

-- AT THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO THE NEWS  
HAS SPREAD SLOWLY DESPITE THE RELEASE OF US AND SOUTH  
KOREAN STATEMENTS. AS OF NOON TODAY WASHINGTON TIME, AFP  
REPORTED MOST DELEGATIONS STILL UNAWARE OF THE INCIDENT.

-- AN OFFICIAL CUBAN STATEMENT PUBLISHED AUGUST 19 SAID  
"ADVENTUROUS AND WARLIKE MANEUVERS OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM"  
COULD TRIGGER WAR IN KOREA. THE STATEMENT MADE NO SPECIFIC  
MENTION OF THE AUGUST 18 CLASH, HOWEVER.

-- FRANKFURTER ALLEGEMEINE ZEITUNG AND SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEIT-  
UNG BOTH STRONGLY DENOUNCED THE NORTH KOREAN "MURDERS".

-- JAPANESE PRESS COVERAGE WAS GENERALLY FACTUAL WITH LITTLE  
COMMENTARY.

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-- A JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN IN THE ABSENCE OF  
VICE MINISTER SATO STATED THAT JAPAN IS WATCHING "WITH  
GREAT CONCERN" THE INCIDENT, WHICH "LOOKED MORE SERIOUS"  
THAN PREVIOUS DMZ CLASHES.

-- A BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE STATEMENT CONDEMNED THE "BRU-  
TAL MURDERS" AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE "AGGRESSIVE AND INFLEXI-  
BLE ATTITUDE" OF NORTH KOREA TOWARD THE REUNIFICATION  
PROBLEM.

UN ACTIVITIES

THE UN CORE GROUP THAT IS WORKING ON A UN RESOLUTION  
AND EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
DEBATE ON KOREA HAS REACHED A CONSENSUS THAT WE SHOULD

GO AHEAD WITHOUT CHANGING THE AGREED TEXTS AND SUBMIT  
THE DOCUMENTS TOMORROW AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

GOVERNOR SCRANTON TRANSMITTED BY LETTER LATE AUGUST 19  
TO THE UNSC PRESIDENT THE TEXT OF THE SPECIAL UNC REPORT  
ON THE DMZ INCIDENT. ROBINSON

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